(b) and (c). The cost of coal production of a few countries available for the year 1986-87 as compared to CIL is given below:-

Cost of Production

Country	*U.S. $ per tonne*	*Rs./tonne*
U.K.	68.80	873.10
Belgium	71.00	901.02
F.R.Germany	114.20	1449.24
Poland	29.00	368.02
India (CIL)	-	221.54

The cost of production of coal in India could have been even lower but for large manpower and low productivity. Over the past few years, efforts have been made to restrict growth of manpower and achieve increase in production through improvement in productivity. The efforts have yielded results in as much as the manpower, since 1985-86 has been kept constant at around 6.7 lakh, whereas production has increased from 134 M.T. in 1985-86 to 189.6 M.T. in 1990-91 i.e. by 41.5%. This increase has been achieved through increase in output per manshift from 0.92 tonne to 1.29 tonne during the period. As a result, the trend of increase in the unit cost of production prevailing in earlier years has been reversed since 1985-86. The cost of production has increased from Rs. 213.97 per tonne to Rs. 277.18 per tonne i.e. by 29.5% over this period as against the rise in whole sale price index (all commodities) by 45.5%.

Water Supply and Construction of Bridge in Gujarat

4642. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat for the construction of a two-lane bridge through the Gulf of Cambay and supply of water through a pipeline;

(b) if so, the details including the estimated cost thereof;

(c) the quantum of water supply per day as envisaged therein;

(d) whether there is any provision for the supply of water to the industries;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps being taken to accord approval to the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) On the basis of a pre-feasibility report submitted by Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Limited on Water Supply to Saurashrtra and Kutch Region in June, 1989, a project report was prepared by the Government of Gujarat and submitted to the Planning Commission.

(b) The project envisages construction of a two lane bridge through the Gulf of Cambay and supply of water through a pipeline to be laid on the ground through the box girders of the bridge for crossing the Gulf of Cambay. The cost of construction of bridge was estimated to be Rs. 127 crores for composite type and Rs. 186 crores for R.C.C. type, by the Government of Gujarat.

(c) As regards quantum of water, the project envisages two alternatives - (i) 50 million gallons per day and (ii) 100 million gallons per day.

(d) and (e). Yes, there is a provision of about 25 million gallons per day of water for industrial use.

(f) The proposal is under examination in the Planning Commission.

US Approach for a Defence Pact with Pakistan

4643. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of any new approach by the United States for a defence pact with Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir. Though Defence Cooperation arrangements exist between these two countries.

(b) Does not arise. Govt. of India, however, keeps interaction between U.S. & Pakistan in the sphere of Defence under constant observation.

24th Dairy Industry Conference

4644. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 24th Dairy Industry Conference was organised by the Indian Dairy Association on September 1, 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of delegates who attended the Conference;

(c) the objectives of the Conference;

(d) the suggestions made at the Conference; and

(e) the follow-up action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The objective of the Conference was to discuss and deliberate on the theme "Quality and Viability for Sustaining Growth". about 770 delegates attended the Conference.

(d) The important suggestions made at the Conference are:-

i) The dairy Industry may be brought with-in the purview of Industrial Licensing.

ii) Privatize the Government dairies.

iii) To amend the Cooperative Societies Act.

iv) To set up Cooperative Companies for District